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# ANNUAL AUDITED REPORT FORM X-17A-5 PART III

**FACING PAGE** 

Information Required of Brokers and Dealers Pursuant to Section 17 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 17a-5 Thereunder

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING	4/1/2017	AND ENI	OING 3/31/	2018	
	MM/DD/YY			MM/DD/	YY ,
A. REC	GISTRANT IDENTI	FICATION			·
NAME OF BROKER-DEALER: FIRST R	ESEARCH FINAN	CE, INC.		OFFICIA	L USE ONLY
ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUS					
4315 BRIARGROVE LANE	maess. (Do not use P.O	. Box No.)		FIRM	I.D. NO.
DALLAS	(No. and Street) TEXA	S	75	287	
(City)	(State)		(Zip	Code)	·
NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PI FRANK C. DEALY	ERSON TO CONTACT I	N REGARD TO		RT 972) 886-0067	
			. (A	rea Code - Te	lephone Number
B. ACC	OUNTANT IDENTI	FICATION			r
INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT OF M. VAIL & ASSOCIATES, P.C.	vhose opinion is containe	d in this Report*			
	(Name - If Individual, state la		·)		
1808 GATEWAY BLVD., STE.	212 RICHARDSO	N	TEXAS		75080
(Address)	(City)		(State)		(Zip Code)
CHECK ONE:	. !				
Certified Public Accountant			٠.		
Public Accountant					
Accountant not resident in Uni	ted States or any of its po	essessions.			
	FOR OFFICIAL USE	ONLY			

\*Claims for exemption from the requirement that the annual report be covered by the opinion of an independent public accountant must be supported by a statement of facts and circumstances relied on as the basis for the exemption. See Section 240.17a-5(e)(2)

Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

SEC 1410 (06-02)

M

# OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I, FRANK C. DEALY		, swear (or affirm) that, to the best of
my knowledge and belief the FIRST RESEARCH FINANCE, I		ement and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of
of MARCH 31,		, as
	partner, proprietor, principal	10 18 are true and correct. I further swear (or affirm) that d officer or director has any proprietary interest in any account
	PARTHIV PATEL Notary Public, State of Texas Comm. Expires 08-09-2020 Notary ID 125016043	Signature \\ \( \frac{\sqrt{5}\lambda{5}\lambda{5}}{\text{title}}\)
Notacy Public		
(f) Statement of Change (g) Computation of Net (e) (h) Computation for Dete (i) Information Relating (j) A Reconciliation, inc Computation for Dete (k) A Reconciliation between consolidation.	al Condition. (Loss). s in Financial Condition. s in Stockholders' Equity or F s in Liabilities Subordinated t Capital. ermination of Reserve Requir to the Possession or Control luding appropriate explanation ermination of the Reserve Rec ween the audited and unaudite	Partners' or Sole Proprietors' Capital. to Claims of Creditors.  rements Pursuant to Rule 15c3-3. Requirements Under Rule 15c3-3. on of the Computation of Net Capital Under Rule 15c3-1 and the equirements Under Exhibit A of Rule 15c3-3. ted Statements of Financial Condition with respect to methods of
(I) An Oath or Affirmati (m) A copy of the SIPC S	Supplemental Report.	
(n) A report describing ar	y material inadequacies found	d to exist or found to have existed since the date of the previous audit.

<sup>\*\*</sup>For conditions of confidential treatment of certain portions of this filing, see section 240.17a-5(e)(3).

# FIRST RESEARCH FINANCE INC.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION, and INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2018

# First Research Finance Inc. TABLE OF CONTENTS

Report in Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
Financial Statements
Statement of Financial Condition
Statement of Operations
Statement of Changes in Shareholders' Equity5
Statement of Cash Flows
Notes to Financial Statements
Supplementary Information
Schedule I - Supplementary Schedules Required by Rule 17A-5 of
The Securities and Exchange Commission
Schedule II - Determination of Reserve Requirements Under Rule 15c3-3 of
The Securities and Exchange Commission
Schedule III - Information Relating to the Possession or Control Requirements
Under Rule 15c3-3 of The Securities and Exchange Commission
Additional Reports and Related Information 16
Exemption Report



Michael G. Vail, CPA Charles T. Gregg, CPA Don E. Graves, CPA Dinesh J. Pai, CISA

Members: American Institute of CPAs Texas Society of CPAs

# REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors of First Research Finance, Inc.

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial condition of First Research Finance, Inc. (the "Company"), as of March 31, 2018, and the related statements of operations, changes in stockholder's equity, and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of March 31, 2018, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The supplemental information, including Schedule of Computation of Net Capital for Brokers and Dealers under SEC Rule 15c3-1, Schedule of Reconciliation of Net Capital Per FOCUS Report with Audit Report, Information Relating to Possession or Control Requirements Under SEC Rule 15c3-3, and Computation for Determination of the Reserve Requirements Under SEC Rule 15c3-3, has been subjected to audit procedures performed in conjunction with the audit of the Company's financial statements. The supplemental information is the responsibility of the Company's management. Our audit procedures included determining whether the supplemental information reconciles to the financial statements or the underlying accounting and other records, as applicable, and performing procedures to test the completeness and accuracy of the information presented in the supplemental information. In forming our opinion on the supplemental information, we evaluated whether the supplemental information, including its form and content, is presented in conformity with 17 C.F.R. §240.17a-5. In our opinion, the supplemental information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Richardson, Texas May 25, 2018

M. Cul + associates, P.C.

1801 Gateway Blvd., Ste. 212, Richardson, TX 75080 Main: 214-660-2000 | Office: 972-234-3333 | Fax: 972-234-3331 www.vailcpas.com

# Statement of Financial Condition

# March 31, 2018

# **ASSETS**

Current Assets Cash and cash equivalents		400 604
cash and cash equivalents	\$	125,651
Deposit with clearing organization, restricted		11,417
Commissions receivable, net		42
Total current assets	<u> </u>	137,110
	•	137,110
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS'		
Current Liabilities		
Commissions payable	\$	98,114
Accounts payable	*	560
Accrued expense		2,379
Total current liabilities	***************************************	101,054
Shareholders' Equity		
Common stock Par \$.01		1
Retained earnings		36.055
Total Stockholders' Equity	Personalises	36.056
Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity	\$	137,110
	==	

# **Statement of Operations**

# For The Year Ended March 31, 2018

Net Loss			\$	<2,957>	
Total Expenses			\$	110,937	
Miscellaneous	.na	4,568			
Occupancy expenses		10,117			
Bonding expense		472			
Professional fees		11,300			
Regulatory fees		6,226			
Clearing expense		17,529			
Expenses Employee compensation		60,725			
Total Revenue			\$	107,980	
Dividend & Interest		4,820			
Miscellaneous Fees		2,794			
Commissions income		38,757			
Dealer Fees		19,115			
Mutual funds		2,309			
12b-1 fees	\$	40,185			

#### Statement of Changes in Shareholders' Equity

# For The Year Ended March 31, 2018

Common Stock Beginning and

end of year \$ 1

**Retained Earnings:** 

Beginning of year \$39,012

Net Income / loss <u>\$<2,957></u>

End of Year \$36,055

Total

Shareholders'

Equity \$36,056

# Statement of Cash Flows For The Year Ended March 31, 2018

Cash Flows from Operating Activities  Net Income Loss		\$ <2,957>
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net		
cash provided by operating activities:		
Change in operating assets and liabilities:		
Decrease commissions receivable	\$ 90	
Increase in deposit with clearing organization	< 13>	
Decrease in other assets	2,456	
Decrease in accounts payable	< 561>	
Increase in accrued expenses	600	
Increase in commissions payable	27,986	
Net cash provided by operating activities		
Net Increase in Cash		27,601
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		 98,050

125,651

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Cash and cash equivalents at end of year

# **Statement of Cash Flows**

# (Continued)

# For The Year Ended March 31, 2018

# **Supplemental Disclosures of Cash Flow Information:**

Cash Paid During the Year for		
Interest	\$	0
Taxes	Marine distance and a finance	0
Total	<u>\$</u>	0

# Notes to Financial Statements For The Year Ended March 31, 2018

#### **Note 1: Description of Business**

First Research Finance Inc. (the "Company") was incorporated in 1991 in Texas. The Company is a registered member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA") as a broker/dealer, and with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") under the Federal Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act").

The Company acts as a dealer/investment advisor for certain offerings and does not maintain discretionary accounts for its customers. All customer transactions are cleared through a third party clearing firm, Hilltop Securities, Inc. ("HTS"), on a fully disclosed basis. Accordingly, the Company is exempt from Rule 15c3-3 of the Act under Section (k) (2) (ii) of this rule. Based on the agreement between HTS and the Company, the Company pays a clearing fee to HTS for handling all trades for the Company.

#### Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### **Basis of accounting**

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United Statement of America (GAAP) which is required by the SEC and FINRA.

#### Use of estimates

The presentation of the financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

# Notes to Financial Statements For The Year Ended March 31, 2018

#### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include investments with maturities at the time of acquisition of three months or less. The Company has not designated any other assets as cash equivalents in determining the net change in cash in the statements of cash flows.

#### Restricted cash

As of March 31, 2018, cash of \$11,417 was pledged as collateral to secure deposit requirement at HTS.

#### Credit risk

The Company maintains deposits at a financial institution which may at times exceed amounts covered by insurance provided by the U.S. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC"). The Company has not experienced any losses related to amounts in excess of FDIC limits.

#### Commissions receivable

Receivables consist primarily of commissions earned during the year but not received as of year-end. Commissions are earned through a reputable investment fund company. Receivables are recorded only when substantial evidential matter is obtained as to the validity of the receivable. As collection of receivables has historically been cons i stent and timely, management determined collectability is reasonably assured; as such, the Company does not record an allowance for doubtful accounts or maintain a policy for determining reserves for past due or delinquent receivables.

# Notes to Financial Statements For The Year Ended March 31, 2018

#### Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

#### Revenue and cost recognition

Investment transactions are recorded on a trade-date basis. Commissions and related brokerage and clearance fees, dividends and interest are recorded in the period in which they were earned or incurred. Unrealized and realized gains and losses are calculated based on the difference between the fair market value of investments at the beginning of the year (or the purchase price if purchased during the year) and the fair market value of investments at the end of the year (or sales price if sold during the year). Selling, general and administrative costs are charged to expense as incurred.

#### Note 3: Fair Value Measurement

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarch y gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level I) and the lowest priority to unobservable input (Level 3). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under FASB ASC 820 are described as follows.

Level I Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that t h e Company has the ability to access,

# Notes to Financial Statements For The Year Ended March 31, 2018

#### Level 2 Inputs to the valuation methodology include:

- Quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in inactive markets;
- Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or Liability;
- Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.

If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be Observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

#### Level 3 Measurement

Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value

following value methodologies were used for fair value measurement:

The asset's or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques used need to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs. In establishing a fair value hierarchy for the Company's investments in accordance with ASC 820, the

The carrying value of cash and cash equivalents, receivables, and accounts payable approximate fair value due to the short maturity of these instruments.

The methods described above may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. The Company believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants; even so, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

As the investments are valued at quoted market prices, the Company considers them to be Level inputs under the guidance of ASC 820.

During the year ended March 31, 2018, the company did not hold any investments other than FDIC insured money market accounts.

# Notes to Financial Statements For The Year Ended March 31, 2018

#### **Note 4: Related Party Transactions**

Office space is leased from stockholder. Rent equals the property taxes. Payments during the year ended March 31, 2018 were \$10,117.

Monthly accounting services are provided by an officer. Payment for the services for the year ended March 31, 2018 was \$6,500.

#### **Note 5: Net Capital Requirements**

The Company is subject to the SEC Uniform Net Capital Rule (rule 15c3-1), which requires the maintenance of minimum net capital and requires that the ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital, both as defined, shall not exceed certain limits. As of March 31, 2018, the Company was in compliance with both their minimum net capital and ratio of aggregate indebtedness requirements.

#### **Note 6: Income Taxes**

The Company, with the consent of its shareholders, has elected under the Internal Revenue Service Code to be a C Corporation.

The Company is subject to the Texas franchise tax; however, total revenue for the year ended March 31, 2018 was less than the taxable threshold. Therefore, there was no franchise tax for the year ended March 31, 2018.

#### Note 7: Subordinated Liabilities

There were no liabilities which were subordinated to the claims of general creditors at March 31, 2018.

#### **Note 8: Subsequent Events**

Management has evaluated subsequent events through May 18, 2018, the date the financial statements were available to be issued. There were no events noted that came to the attention of management that would require adjustments to or disclosure in the financial statements.

# Schedule I- Supplemental Schedules Required by Rule 17A-5 Of The Securities and Exchange Commission As Of March 31, 2018

Computation of Net Capital:		
Total stockholders' equity \$ 36,056		
Add: subordinated liabilities 0		
Total capital and allowable subordinated liabilities	\$	36,056
Deductions and/or charges:		
Non-allowable assets	-	\$16
Net capital before haircuts on securities positions	\$	36,040
Haircut on securities	5-00-00-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-	(0)
Net Capital	\$	36,040
	<del>- 1,17,17,17</del>	
Computation of Basic Net Capital Requirement		
Minimum net capital required - 6.67% of aggregate indebtedness	\$	6,737
Minimum dollar net capital requirement of reporting broker or deale	er \$	5,000
Excess net capital	ć	20 202
LACESS HEL CAPITAL	\$	29,303
Net capital less the greater of 10% of aggregate indebtedness		75 875
or 120% of minimum net capital requirement	\$	25,935

# Schedule I- Computation of Net Capital Under Rule 15c3-1 of The Securities and Exchange Commission (Continued) As Of March 31, 2018

# **Computation of Aggregate Indebtedness**

Total liabilities	\$	101,054
Less: exclusions		0
Aggregated Indebtedness	\$	101, 054
Percentage of aggregate indebtedness to net capital	*************	280 39%
Reconciliation with Company's Allowable Net Capital		
Net allowable capital, as reported in Company's		
unaudited Focus Report	\$	36,040
Audit adjustments		0
Adjusted net allowable capital, per audited financial statement	s_\$	36,040

There is no material difference in the above computation and the Company's net capital, as reported in Company's Part IIA (unaudited) FOCUS report as of March 31, 2018.

# First Research Finance, Inc. Schedules II and III March 31, 2018

Schedule II - Computation For Determination of Reserve Requirements

Under Rule 15c3-3 Of The Securities and Exchange Commission

The Company has claimed an exemption from Rule 15c3-3 under section (k)(2)(ii) in which all customer transactions are cleared through a clearing firm on a fully disclosed basis. Transactions are cleared through Hilltop Securities, Inc.

Schedule III- Information Relating to The Possession or Control Requirements
Under Rule 15c3-3 Of The Securities and Exchange Commission

The Company is exempt from the provisions of Rule 15c3-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 pursuant to paragraph (k) (2) (ii) of the Rule.



Michael G. Vaif, CPA Charles T. Gregg, CPA Don E. Graves, CPA Dinesh J. Pai, CISA Members: American Institute of CPAs Texas Society of CPAs

# REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors of First Research Finance, Inc.

We have reviewed management's statements, included in the accompanying First Research Finance, Inc. (the "Company") Exemption Report, in which (1) the Company identified the following provisions of 17 C.F.R. §15c3-3(k) under which the Company claimed an exemption from 17 C.F.R. §240.15c3-3: (k)(2)(ii) (the "exemption provisions") and (2) the Company stated that the Company met the identified exemption provisions throughout the most recent fiscal year without exception. the Company's management is responsible for compliance with the exemption provisions and its statements.

Our review was conducted in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) and, accordingly, included inquiries and other required procedures to obtain evidence about the Company's compliance with the exemption provisions. A review is substantially less in scope than an examination, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion on management's statements. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to management's statements referred to above for them to be fairly stated, in all material respects, based on the provisions set forth in paragraph (k)(2)(ii) of Rule 15c3-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Richardson, Texas May 25, 2018

M. al + associates, P.C.

# First Research Finance Inc. Exemption Report Year Ended March 31, 2018

First Research Finance, Inc. (the Company) is a registered broker-dealer subject to Rule 17a - 5 promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission (17 C.F.R. 240.17a-5, "Reports to be made by certain brokers and dealers"). This exemption Report was prepared as required by 17 C.F.R. \*240.17a-5(d) (l) and (4). To the best of its knowledge and belief the Company states the following:

- 1. The Company claimed an exemption from 17 C.F.R. §240.15c3-3 Under the following provisions of 17 C.F.R. §240.15c3-3 (k) (2) (ii).
- 2. The Company met the identified exemption provisions in 17 C.F.R. §240.15c3-3 (k) (2) (ii) throughout the period April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018 without exception.

First Research Finance, Inc.

Frank C. Dealy, swear (or affirm) that to my best knowledge and belief this Exemption Report is true and correct.

By:

Frank C. Dealy Vice President

and (

May 11, 2018



Michael G. Vail, CPA Charles T. Gregg, CPA Don E. Graves, CPA Dinesh J. Pai, CISA Members: American Institute of CPAs Texas Society of CPAs

May 25, 2018

Mr. Alan Lawrence,

PCAOB Rule 3526, Communication with Audit Committees Concerning Independence, requires that we disclose to you in writing, at least annually, all relationships between our firm and any affiliates and your company and its related entities or persons in financial reporting oversight roles at your company that may reasonably be thought to bear on independence.

The following is a description of such relationships as of May 25, 2018, of which we are aware that are relevant to our audit of the Company's financial statements for the year ending March 31, 2018.

We are not aware of any such relationships

M. al + associates, P.C.

We confirm that we are independent of the Company in compliance with Rule 3520 and within the meaning of the federal securities laws administered by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

As further required by PCAOB Rule 3526, we affirm to the audit committee that we are in compliance with Rule 3520.

This letter is intended solely for use by you and other members of the management in your consideration of our independence as auditors, and should not be used for any other purpose.

Very truly yours,

1801 Gateway Blvd., Ste. 212, Richardson, TX 75080 Main: 214-660-2000 | Office: 972-234-3333 | Fax: 972-234-3331

www.vailcpas.com